

before in the 19. Observation noted on Rose-leaves, is of a quite differing kind, and seems indeed a real Vegetable, distinct from the leaf.

Thirdly, among these small bushes are observable an infinite company of small round Balls, exactly Globular, and very much resembling Pearls, namely, CCCC, of these there may be multitudes observ'd in Sage, and several other Plants, which I suppose was the reason why *Athanasius Kircher* supposed them to be all cover'd with Spiders Eggs, or young Spiders, which indeed is nothing else but some kind of gummous exudation, which is always much of the same bigness. At first sight of these, I confess, I imagin'd that they might have been some kind of *matrices*, or nourishing receptacles for some small Insect, just as I have found Oak-apples, and multitudes of such other large excrescencies on the leaves and other parts of Trees and shrubs to be for Flyes, and divers other Insects, but observing them to be there all the year, and scarce at all to change their magnitude, that conjecture seem'd not so probable. But what ever be the use of it, it affords a very pleasant object through the *Microscope*, and may, perhaps, upon further examination, prove very luciferous.

Observ. XXV. *Of the stinging points and juice of Nettles, and some other venomous Plants.*

A Nettle is a Plant so well known to every one, as to what the appearance of it is to the naked eye, that it needs no description; and there are very few that have not felt as well as seen it; and therefore it will be no news to tell that a gentle and slight touch of the skin by a Nettle, does oftentime, not onely create very sensible and acute pain, much like that of a burn or scald, but often also very angry and hard swellings and inflammations of the parts, such as will presently rise, and continue swoln divers hours. These observations, I say, are common enough; but how the pain is so suddenly created, and by what means continued, augmented for a time, and afterwards diminish'd, and at length quite extinguish'd, has not, that I know, been explain'd by any.

And here we must have recourse to our *Microscope*, and that will, if almost any part of the Plant be looked on, shew us the whole surface of it very thick set with turn-Pikes, or sharp Needles, of the shape of those represented in the 15. *Scheme* and first *Figure* by A B, which are visible also to the naked eye; each of which consists of two parts very distinct for shape, and differing also in quality from one another. For the part A, is shaped very much like a round Bodkin, from B tapering till it end in a very sharp point; it is of a substance very hard and stiff, exceedingly transparent and cleer, and, as I by many trials certainly found, is hollow from top to bottom.

This I found by this Experiment, I had a very convenient *Microscope*